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October 12, 2010

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Ridley-Thomas Hails Expanded Ordinance to Extend Letter Grades to Mobile Food Facilities and Expand Education For Consumers

Los Angeles—Unanimous approval was given today to a motion which will strengthen the regulation of Mobile Food Facilities (MFFs), while at the same time, educate the public and encourage mobile vendors to offer healthy alternatives to consumers throughout the County.

“Expanding letter grades to mobile food trucks is an important step toward the protection of the health of the public,” said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas. “But I am particularly pleased that the Board unanimously endorsed my motion to institute a consumer education program and explore ways to ensure that mobile food vendors offer healthy food alternatives, particularly in those areas which have high incidents of diabetes and obesity.”

“Healthy choices are important because stores and vendors in many neighborhoods of our County do not offer an adequate number of healthy choices to consumers, and mobile food vendors are potentially the most viable providers of healthy food choices to consumers who live in such areas,” added Ridley-Thomas.

The ordinance will empower consumers to make informed food choices based on safe food handling practices and facility sanitation. Phase I of the program will begin 30 days after adoption of the ordinance and will include inspection of approximately 3,200 full

service catering trucks. Phase II is scheduled to begin on July 1, 2011 and will include the estimated 2,800 remaining food service carts.

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